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July 28, 2022

U.S Senator Martin Heinrich

400 Gold Ave SW Suite 1080
Albuquerque, NM. 87102

Subject: Living School Yards Act Endorsement

Dear Senator Heinrich,

My name is Colin Barnett, President of the Amigos de la Sevilleta. The Amigos are members of the public who support the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge with both funds and volunteer labor. The Refuge has several outreach programs with local schools; rangers visit the schools and teach the pupils about the desert environment of the Sevilleta.

This type of engagement with young students exposes them to the beauty and science of the natural world which is on their doorstep. Sometimes we bring the natural world into the classroom by, for example, supplying aquariums with native fish, or helping to plant pollinator gardens.

By providing schools with the resources to transform their curriculum, we are actively promoting healthy lifestyles, and encouraging exploration and preservation habits that will last a lifetime.

This is why the Amigos de la Sevilleta support the Living School Yards Act of 2022 to transform schoolyards into dynamic outdoor learning environments.

Sincerely,

Colin Barnett

President, Amigos de la Sevilleta